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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/640,122	08/16/2000	James M. Dunn	6169-135	4634

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EXAMINER

PARTHASARATHY, PRAMILA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2136

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/640,122

Applicant(s)

DUNN ET AL.

Examiner

Pramila Parthasarathy

Art Unit

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 August 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is in response to the application filed on 08/16/2000. Claims 1 – 36 were received for consideration. No preliminary amendments to the claims were filed. Claims 1 – 36 are currently being considered.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 – 3, 5, 16 – 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Naik et al. (U.S. Patent 5,548,647).

Regarding Claim 1, Naik teaches and describes, a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device comprising the steps of:

establishing a private communications link between a user and the publicly positioned device (Fig.1 and Column 4 lines 27 – 50);

prompting said user for a combination of random data and the user-identifier (Column 5 lines 7 – 28), and,

discarding said random data from said combination (Column 5 lines 15 – 21).

Regarding Claim 19, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, said computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

establishing a private communications link between a user and the publicly positioned device (Fig.1 and Column 4 lines 27 – 50);

prompting said user for a combination of random data and the user-identifier (Column 5 lines 7 – 28); and,

discarding said random data from said combination (Column 5 lines 15 –21).

Claim 2 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein: said prompting step comprises the steps of:

separately prompting said user for each portion of the user-identifier (Column 5 lines 22 – 26);

combining said random data and the user-identifier into said combination  
(Column 2 lines 10 – 22).

Claim 3 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein: said prompting step comprises the steps of:

dividing the user-identifier into at least two portions (Column 6 lines 10 – 17);  
separately prompting said user for each portion of the user-identifier (Column 5  
lines 22 – 26 and Column 6 lines 10 – 29);  
prompting said user for random data in between said separate prompts for said  
at least two portions (Column 6 lines 10 – 29); and,  
discarding said random data and combining said at least two portions, wherein  
the user-identifier comprises a combination of said at least two portions (Column 5 lines  
15 – 21).

Claim 5 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein: the publicly positioned device has a telephone interface through which said user can be audibly prompted for said random data and the user-identifier (Fig.1)

Claim 20 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 19. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said prompting step comprises the steps of:

separately prompting said user for said random data and the user-identifier (Column 5 lines 22 –26); and,  
combining said random data and the user-identifier into said combination (Column 2 lines 10 – 22).

Claim 21 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 19. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said prompting step comprises the steps of:

dividing the user-identifier into at least two portions (Column 6 lines 10 –17);  
separately prompting said user for each portion of the user-identifier (Column 5 lines 22 – 26 and Column 6 lines 10 – 29);  
prompting said user for random data in between said separate prompts for said at least two portions (Column 6 lines 10 – 29); and,  
discarding said random data and combining said at least two portions, wherein the user-identifier comprises a combination of said at least two portions (Column 5 lines 15 – 21).

Claim 23 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 19. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said prompting step comprises the steps of: the publicly positioned device has a telephone interface through which said user can be audibly prompted for said random data and the user-identifier (Fig.1).

Claim 16 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 3. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of:

connecting said user to a telephone operator system through said telephone interface (Column 4 lines 40 – 50),

said prompts audibly provided by said telephone operator system to said user through said telephone interface (Column 4 lines 51 – 62).

Claim 17 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 16. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said telephone operator system is an interactive (Column 6 lines 43 – 62).

Claim 18 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 16. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said telephone operator system is a human telephone operator (Add a new ref).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**4. Claims 4 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naik et al. (U.S. Patent 5,548,647) in view of Watkins (U.S. Patent 5,719,560, herein after "Watkins").**

Claim 4 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 1. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein: the publicly positioned device has an interface through which said user can be visually prompted for said random data and the user-identifier.

Naik does not teach that the publicly positioned device has a visual interface through which said user can be visually prompted for said random data and the user-



identifier. However, Watkins discloses that the publicly positioned device has a visual interface through which said user can be visually prompted for said random data and the user-identifier (Watkins Column 11 lines 60 – 65 and Column 12 lines 44 – 60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine a method for implementing a visual interface through which user can be visually prompted for random data and the user-identifier as taught by Watkins to provide a secure, selective viewing of information, as taught by Naik, on a display that can easily be enabled by the viewer. The motivation would have been to enhance the level of security of methods of verification of the identity of the user, thereby enhance a speaker verification system and method.

Claim 22 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 19. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein: the publicly positioned device has an interface through which said user can be visually prompted for said random data and the user-identifier.

Naik does not teach that the publicly positioned device has a visual interface through which said user can be visually prompted for said random data and the user-identifier. However, Watkins discloses that the publicly positioned device has a visual interface through which said user can be visually prompted for said random data and the user-identifier (Watkins Column 11 lines 60 – 65 and Column 12 lines 44 – 60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine a method for implementing a visual interface through

which user can be visually prompted for random data and the user-identifier as taught by Watkins to provide a secure, selective viewing of information, as taught by Naik, on a display that can easily be enabled by the viewer. The motivation would have been to enhance the level of security of methods of verification of the identity of the user, thereby enhance a speaker verification system and method.

**5. Claims 6 – 15 and 24 - 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naik et al. (U.S. Patent 5,548,647) in view of watkins (5,719,560) and further in view of Coteus et al. (U.S. Patent 5,614,920, herein after “Coteus”).**

Claim 6 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 4. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device. Even when taken together, Naik and Watkins do not teach linking the publicly positioned device through an encoder application to active glasses having a shuttered display, said shuttered display opening and closing responsive to synchronization pulses; synchronizing display of said prompts in said visual interface with said opening and closing of said shuttered display in said active glasses; and, displaying masking data in said visual interface between said display of said prompts.

However, Coteus teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said establishing step comprises:

linking the publicly positioned device through an encoder application to active glasses having a shuttered display, said shuttered display opening and closing responsive to synchronization pulses (Coteus Column 2 lines 30 – 38);

synchronizing display of said prompts in said visual interface with said opening and closing of said shuttered display in said active glasses (Coteus Column 2 lines 32 – 45); and,

displaying masking data in said visual interface between said display of said prompts (Coteus Column 2 lines 46 – 55).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine a method for implementing a visual interface through which user can be visually prompted for random data and the user-identifier as taught by Watkins to provide a secure, selective viewing of information, as taught by Naik, on a display that can easily be enabled by the viewer and masking data to permit image to be viewed only by the person having the electronic shutter. The motivation would have been to enhance the level of security of methods of verification of the identity of the user, thereby enhance a speaker verification system and method that can be easily enabled or disabled by the viewer.

Claim 24 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 22. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device. Even when taken together, Naik and Watkins do not teach linking the publicly positioned device through an encoder application to active glasses having a

shuttered display, said shuttered display opening and closing responsive to synchronization pulses; synchronizing display of said prompts in said visual interface with said opening and closing of said shuttered display in said active glasses; and, displaying masking data in said visual interface between said display of said prompts.

However, Coteus teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said establishing step comprises:

linking the publicly positioned device through an encoder application to active glasses having a shuttered display, said shuttered display opening and closing responsive to synchronization pulses (Coteus Column 2 lines 30 – 38);

synchronizing display of said prompts in said visual interface with said opening and closing of said shuttered display in said active glasses (Coteus Column 2 lines 32 – 45); and,

displaying masking data in said visual interface between said display of said prompts (Coteus Column 2 lines 46 – 55).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine a method for implementing a visual interface through which user can be visually prompted for random data and the user-identifier as taught by Watkins to provide a secure, selective viewing of information, as taught by Naik, on a display that can easily be enabled by the viewer and masking data to permit image to be viewed only by the person having the electronic shutter. The motivation would have been to enhance the level of security of methods of verification of the

identity of the user, thereby enhance a speaker verification system and method that can be easily enabled or disabled by the viewer.

Claim 7 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 6. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said synchronizing step comprises the steps of:

generating a sequencing pattern containing synchronization pulses (Coteus Column 2 lines 1 – 5);

generating a data signal, said data signal comprising private data and masking data frames interspersed according to said sequencing pattern, said private data comprising said prompts:

providing said data signal to said visual interface (Coteus Fig.1 #18 and Column 2 lines 30 – 44); and,

opening and closing said shuttered display in said active glasses in accordance with said sequencing pattern (Coteus Column 2 lines 3 – 13),

whereby said user viewing said visual interface with said active glasses can view said prompts and unauthorized viewers without said active glasses can view only said prompts obscured by said masking data (Coteus Column 3 lines 55 – 61).

Claim 25 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 24. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said synchronizing step comprises the steps of:

generating a sequencing pattern containing synchronization pulses (Coteus Column 2 lines 1 – 5);

generating a data signal, said data signal comprising private data and masking data frames interspersed according to said sequencing pattern, said private data comprising said prompts:

providing said data signal to said visual interface (Coteus Fig.1 #18 and Column 2 lines 30 – 44); and,

opening and closing said shuttered display in said active glasses in accordance with said sequencing pattern (Coteus Column 2 lines 3 – 13),

whereby said user viewing said visual interface with said active glasses can view said prompts and unauthorized viewers without said active glasses can view only said prompts obscured by said masking data (Coteus Column 3 lines 55 – 61).

Claim 8 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said sequencing pattern is encoded (Coteus Column 2 lines 3 – 5 and Column 3 lines 7 – 15).

Claim 9 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said step of generating a data signal comprises the steps of:

inserting masking data in said data signal (Coteus Column 2 lines 56 – 62); and,

inserting said private data in said data signal when indicated by said synchronization pulses in said sequencing pattern (Coteus Column 3 lines 10 – 16 and 45 – 51).

Claim 10 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said step of generating a data signal comprises the step of:

inserting masking data in said data signal (Coteus Column 2 lines 56 – 62); and, for private data forming a complete character or image, repeatedly inserting portions of said complete character or image when indicted by said synchronization pulses in said sequencing pattern until all portions of said complete character or image are inserted in said data signal (Coteus Column 3 lines 10 – 16 and 45 – 51),

whereby display of said data signal, as viewed by said active glasses synchronized with said interface according to said sequencing pattern is a strobe display of said complete character or image (Coteus Column 2 lines 59 – 67).

Claim 11 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said step of opening and closing said shuttered display comprises the step of, responsive to synchronization pulses in said sequencing pattern, opening and closing said shuttered display (Coteus Column 6 lines 43 – 62).

Claim 13 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said sequencing pattern corresponds to alternating displays of said private data and said masking data (Coteus Column 3 lines 45 – 51).

Claim 14 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said sequencing pattern corresponds to combined left eye/right eye images of said private data (Coteus Column 2 lines 62 - Column 3 line 16).

Claim 15 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 7. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said masking data is a fill pattern (Coteus Column 2 34 – 40 and 55 – 59).

Claim 26 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 25. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said sequencing pattern is encoded (Coteus Column 2 lines 3 – 5 and Column 3 lines 7 – 15).

Claim 27 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 25. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer



program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said step of generating a data signal comprises the step of:

inserting masking data in said data signal (Coteus Column 2 lines 56 – 62); and,  
inserting said private data in said data signal when indicated by said  
synchronization pulses in said sequencing pattern (Coteus Column 3 lines 10 – 16 and  
45 – 51).

Claim 28 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 25. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said step of generating a data signal comprises the steps of:

inserting masking data in said data signal (Coteus Column 2 lines 56 – 62); and  
for private data forming a complete character or image, repeatedly inserting  
portions of said complete character or image when indicated by said synchronization  
pulses in said sequencing pattern until all portions of said complete character or image  
are inserted in said data signal (Coteus Column 3 lines 10 – 16 and 45 – 51),

whereby display of said data signal, as viewed by said active glasses  
synchronized with said visual interface according to said sequencing pattern is a strobe  
display of said complete character or image (Coteus Column 2 lines 59 – 67).

Claim 29 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 25. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer

program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said step of opening and closing said shuttered display comprises the step of, responsive to synchronization pulses in said sequencing pattern, opening and closing said shuttered display (Coteus Column 6 lines 43 – 62).

Claim 31 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 25. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said sequencing pattern corresponds to alternating displays of said private data and said masking data (Coteus Column 3 lines 45 – 51).

Claim 32 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 25. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said sequencing pattern corresponds to combined left eye/right images of said private data (Coteus Column 2 lines 62 – Column 3 line 16). (May be a new ref\*\*\*)

Claim 33 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 25. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said masking data is a fill pattern (Coteus Column 3 lines 34 – 40 and 55 – 59).

Claim 34 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 25. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of:

connecting said user to a telephone operator system through said telephone interface, said prompts audibly provided by said telephone operator system to said user through said telephone interface (Column 5 lines 15 – 18).

Claim 12 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 8. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes a method for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said step of opening and closing said shuttered display comprises the steps of:

decoding said encoded sequencing pattern (Column 5 lines 28 – 32 and Column 6 lines 25 – 34) ; and

responsive to said synchronization pulses in said sequencing pattern , opening and closing said shuttered display (Coteus Column 2 lines 3 – 13).

Claim 30 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 26. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said step of opening and closing said shuttered display comprises the steps of:

decoding said encoded sequencing pattern (Column 5 lines 28 – 32 and Column 6 lines 25 – 34); and

responsive to said synchronization pulses in said sequencing pattern , opening and closing said shuttered display (Coteus Column 2 lines 3 – 13).

Claim 35 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 34. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said telephone operator system is an interactive voice response (“IVR”) system (Column lines Column 6 lines 33 – 53).

Claim 36 is rejected as applied above in rejecting claim 34. Furthermore, Naik teaches and describes, a machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program for secure entry of a user-identifier in a publicly positioned device, wherein said telephone operator system is a human telephone operator. It is well known in the art that the authentication devices are equipped with hardware to allow a query-response type of authentication scheme to be used or to provide with an audio interface, are used to authenticate a device or an entity to communicate with the user to be equipped with both human telephone operator or with machine readable verification systems.

### ***Conclusion***

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 or  
**faxed to:** (703) 872-9306 for all formal communications.


Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal  
Drive, Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the  
examiner should be directed to Pramila Parthasarathy whose telephone number is 703-  
305-8912. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00a.m. To 5:00p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's  
supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone number for  
the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or  
proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-  
3900.

**Pramila Parthasarathy**  
**Patent Examiner**  
**703-305-8912**  
**March 11, 2004**

  
AYAZ SHEIKH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100